

# House Study Bill 138

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL  
BY CHAIRPERSON MASCHER)

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the time of opening the polls for certain city  
2 elections.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:  
4 TLSB 2014HC 83  
5 sc/nh/8

PAG LIN

1 1 Section 1. Section 49.73, subsection 1, Code 2009, is  
1 2 amended to read as follows:  
1 3 1. At all elections, except as otherwise permitted by this  
1 4 section, the polls shall be opened at 7:00 a.m. if at least  
1 5 one official from each of the political parties referred to in  
1 6 section 49.13 is present. On the basis of voter turnout for  
1 7 recent similar elections and factors considered likely to so  
1 8 affect voter turnout for the forthcoming election as to  
1 9 justify shortened voting hours for that election, the  
1 10 commissioner may direct that the polls be opened at 12:00 noon  
1 11 for:  
1 12 a. Any school district election.  
1 13 b. Any election conducted for a city of ~~three thousand~~  
~~1 14 five hundred or less population~~, including a local option  
1 15 sales and services tax election conducted pursuant to section  
1 16 423B.1. At elections conducted pursuant to chapter 423B, all  
1 17 polling places shall have the same voting hours.  
1 18 ~~c. Any election conducted for a city of more than three~~  
~~1 19 thousand five hundred population if there is no contest for~~  
~~1 20 any office on the ballot and no public question is being~~  
~~1 21 submitted to the voters at that election.~~  
1 22 ~~d. c.~~ Any election conducted for a benefited district.  
1 23 ~~e. d.~~ Any election conducted for the unincorporated area  
1 24 of a county.

## EXPLANATION

1 26 This bill allows the county commissioner of elections to  
1 27 open the polls at noon rather than 7:00 a.m. for any city  
1 28 election. Currently, the polls may open at noon for city  
1 29 elections in cities with a population of 3,500 or less or in  
1 30 any city if there is no contested election or no public  
1 31 measure on the ballot.  
1 32 LSB 2014HC 83  
1 33 sc/nh/8